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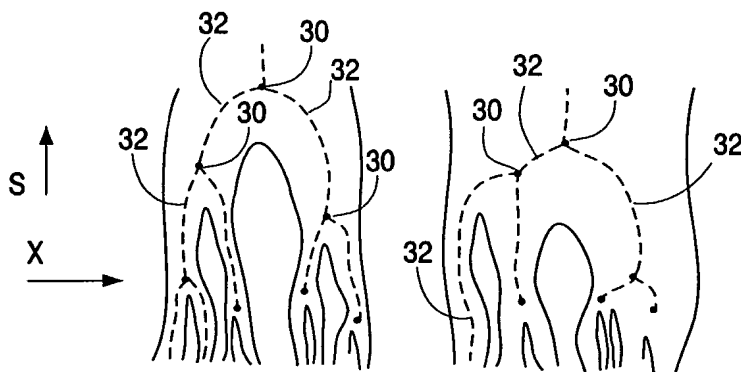
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENCODING AND DECODING AN IMAGE



(57) Abstract: A digital image coding apparatus, generates a representation of spatially filtered images that are obtainable from a common source image by application of spatial filter operations with respective filter bandwidths. The dependence of image information in the filtered images on position in the filtered image and filter bandwidth is represented by information that defines a surface in a space that has at least the position in the filtered image and the filter bandwidth as coordinates. The shape and position of the surface at least partly defines said dependence. The apparatus receives an image signal that represents the source image as a function of position in the

image. The apparatus then selects coordinate values of a set of control points. Selection includes selecting filter bandwidth components of the coordinate values, dependent on the image signal. The selection optimizes a quality of approximation by an approximate version of the surface of a true version of the surface that follows from the source image.